

15. (Amended) A bearing structure having a hydrodynamic gas bearing, comprising:

B⁵
fixed components; and

rotatable components which are supported by the fixed components for rotation,

wherein the fixed components and the rotatable components are kept in a non-contact state during rotation of the rotatable components,

the bearing structure further comprising a conductive structure having a magnetic fluid for electrically connecting the fixed components and the rotatable components either in the region where there is no gas flow generated by suction or discharge of a gas for generating hydrodynamic pressure at the hydrodynamic gas bearing portion, or in the region where the gas flow is negligible.

REMARKS

These Amendments and Remarks are being filed in response to the Office Action dated August 26, 2002. For the following reasons, this Application should be in condition for allowance and the case passed to issue.

Claims 1-26 are pending in this application. Claims 1-14 and 18-26 have been withdrawn from consideration because of a restriction requirement.

No new matter is introduced by this amendment. The amendment to specification corrects informalities. The amendment to claim 15 is supported by the specification and the claims as originally filed. The amendment to claim 15, changing "air" to --gas--, is a broadening amendment, not necessitated by a ground of rejection.

Abstract

The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it is longer than 150 words.